



## IMMIGRANT AMERICA

The face of immigrant America is changing — and this underscores the case for comprehensive reform.

Surprising numbers from the Washington, D.C.-based Pew Hispanic Center illustrate the change — and the challenges — to border control.

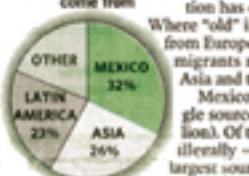
### BIG NUMBERS, BIG CHANGES

Foreign-born Americans in millions

1970 9.6

2005 36.4

#### Where immigrants come from



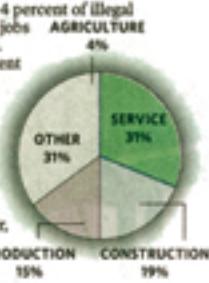
The face of American immigration has changed before our eyes. Where "old" immigration came largely from Europe, the vast majority of immigrants now come from Mexico, Asia and the rest of Latin America. Mexico is America's largest single source of immigrants (3.6 million). Of these, 6.2 million are here illegally — but Mexico is also the largest source of legal immigrants in the United States.

### ECONOMIC TRENDS

In Idaho, most illegal immigrants work in agriculture.

However, the nation's 7.2 million illegal workers (about 4.9 percent of the work force) are finding an evolving role in the work force.

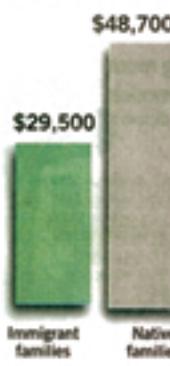
Only about 4 percent of illegal workers have jobs in agriculture. About 31 percent are in service industries, 19 percent in construction/extraction industries, 15 percent are in a range of repair, installation and production work (such as meat and poultry).



### THE PAY GAP

One trend cuts across employment sectors: Illegal immigrants tend to work low-wage jobs without health insurance.

Average family income



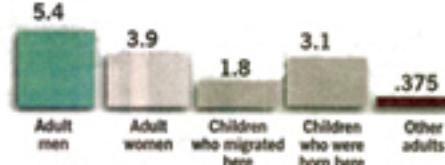
### FAMILY TRENDS

The perception of the "migrant," the person who crosses the border alone, just doesn't compute. About 2.4 million to 2.5 million illegal immigrants are solo men, another 730,000 are solo women — a fraction of the illegal immigrant population's 6.6 million.

► The nation's 6.6 million unauthorized families tend to be, indeed, families. They include 1.8 million children who immigrated here illegally, and 3.1 million children who were born here (and are U.S. citizens).

► Illegal immigrant men are here to work (94 percent of them, ages 18-64, are in the workplace). But the numbers are different for illegal immigrant women (54 percent have jobs, compared to 72 percent of native-born women ages 18-64).

#### Illegal immigrant demographics (figures in millions)



### NATIONAL TRENDS: BEYOND THE BIG SIX

Two-thirds of immigrants (legal and illegal) live in six states.

Sixty percent of the nation's illegal immigrants (6.1 million people, based on 2005 figures) live in these "Big Six" states. The numbers appear at left.

However, illegal immigrants are moving to new growth areas, including Arizona, Georgia and North Carolina (all with illegal immigrant populations of 300,000).

Illegal immigration also has spread to Northwest states such as Washington (with an illegal immigrant population of 200,000 to 300,000), Nevada and Oregon (with illegal immigrant populations of 100,000 to 200,000), and Idaho (where the illegal immigrant population is 20,000 to 30,000).

### A POROUS BORDER

The crux of 2006 immigration reform centers on building a 700-mile fence along a fraction of the U.S.-Mexican border. A few numbers illustrate the limitations of building a fence.

► During fiscal year 2004, customs officials logged 438 million border crossings. People from Mexico, crossing into the United States to work or shop, accounted for 23.5 million of these crossings.

To put these staggering numbers in context, an estimated 500,000 illegal immigrants enter the United States each year.

► About 6 million to 7 million illegal immigrants fit the popular perception of the border jumper: someone who crossed the Arizona desert, traversed the Rio Grande or otherwise evaded customs. Yet some 45 percent of illegal immigrants crossed the border through a port of entry. They used a temporary visa or border crossing card to enter the United States — and stayed.



45%